GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2210
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005
IMPACT OF MINING OF MONUMENTS IN HAMPI
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hampi is in the UNESCO endangered Heritage Monuments List;

(b) if so, the number of monuments being maintained by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in and around Hampi;

(c) whether mining at Sandur and Hospet has adversely affected the monuments in Hampi;

(d) if so, whether the ASI has taken up the issue with the Ministry of Environment and Forests to regulate mining in and around Hampi;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(f) whether the ASI has formulated any plan to conduct 'Risk Preparedness Impact Study' on Hampi monuments in Karnataka; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

a) Yes, Sir. The Group of Monuments in Hampi is enlisted as World Heritage Site (WHS) in danger by the UNESCO Authorities in the year 1999.

b) 56 Monuments are declared as centrally protected monuments, which are being maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India

c) No, Sir. The Monuments of Hampi are not affected. However, mining acitivities have led to severe dust pollution in the centrally protected Parvathi and Kartikeya temples and in the state protected Jambunatheswara temple, which is located beyond the core zone of the Hampi WHS.

d) The matter has been taken up at the highest level in the Government of Karnataka and also in the Coordination Committee headed by the Principal Secretary to the Government of Karnataka − Kannada and Culture Department.

e) Response of the Government of Karnataka is being awaited.

f) & g) The site management plan of Hampi WHS, which is being finalized, will take care of this aspect.